

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

The specification as amended below with replacement paragraphs shows added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 16, with the following paragraph:

The information management apparatus ~~relating~~ according to an aspect of ~~to the~~ present invention manages information of a recording medium. The recording medium has medium-specific information; and comprises a user-use area to which any information can be written and from which any information can be read out in accordance with instructions from an external source, and a secure area that cannot be controlled by instructions from an external source; ~~. The information management apparatus and~~ manages information of a recording medium wherein license information based on use rights for any information stored in a user-use area is stored in a secure area, said information management apparatus further comprising write and read-out means for writing any information to and reading out any information from the user-use area and predetermined information deriving means for encrypting license information stored in the secure area using medium-specific information or a key generated therefrom and deriving the same outside the secure area.